

Overview of Connecticut's Competitive Foods Regulations

This guidance applies to schools and institutions that participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Child Nutrition Programs (CNPs), including the [National School Lunch Program \(NSLP\)](#), [School Breakfast Program \(SBP\)](#), [Afterschool Snack Program \(ASP\)](#) of the NSLP, [Seamless Summer Option \(SSO\)](#) of the NSLP, [Special Milk Program \(SMP\)](#), [Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program \(FFVP\)](#), [Child and Adult Care Food Program \(CACFP\)](#) [At-risk Afterschool Meals](#) operated in schools, and [Summer Food Service Program \(SFSP\)](#) operated in schools.

Note: Residential child care institutions (RCCIs) may be eligible to participate in the ASP if they operate an afterschool care program with enrichment or education activities that meet the criteria for ASP participation. RCCIs may be eligible to serve At-risk Afterschool Meals if they have non-residential care programs and these programs offer afterschool education and enrichment programs for nonresidential children.



Effective August 25, 1992, Sections 10-215b-1 and 10-215b-23 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies address restrictions for sale and dispensing competitive foods to students on school premises and the accrual of income from competitive foods.

- “Competitive foods” are all foods and beverages available for sale to students on school premises separately from reimbursable meals and snacks in the CNPs.
 - The USDA’s Smart Snacks nutrition standards address sales of competitive foods during the school day, which is the period from the midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day.
 - The state competitive foods regulations address sales of competitive foods from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after the operation of any CNPs, including during and after the school day. They also restrict giving certain foods and beverages to students during this time.
 - The Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.) for Healthy Food Certification (HFC) (C.G.S. Section 10-215f) and allowable beverages (C.G.S. Section 10-221q) address sales of competitive foods at all times, except for sales that meet specific exemption criteria (refer to [“Food exemptions for HFC public schools”](#) and [“Beverage exemptions for HFC public schools”](#) in this document).
- “Sales” means the exchange of a determined amount of money or its equivalent (such as coupons, tickets, tokens, and similar items) for foods and beverages. Sales also include programs and activities that charge a fee that includes the cost of foods and beverages provided to students, and activities that suggest a student donation in exchange for foods and beverages.

Overview of Connecticut's Competitive Foods Regulations

- “Dispensing” means to give, provide, or distribute foods and beverages to students. This includes foods and beverages that are given to students at no charge, such as food rewards and classroom parties.
- “School premises” include all areas of the property under the jurisdiction of the local or regional board of education, the regional vocational-technical school system, or the governing authority district or school.

Table 1 summarizes the state competitive foods regulations.

**Table 1. Requirements for Competitive Foods
in the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies**

Section 10-215b-1. Competitive foods

(a) No school food authority shall permit the sale or dispensing to students of extra food items anywhere on the school premises from thirty minutes prior to the start of any state or federally subsidized milk or food service program until thirty minutes after such program.

(b) “Extra food items” means tea, coffee, soft drinks and candy.

(c) “School food authority” means the governing body which has the legal authority to operate one or more school feeding programs and receive state or federal subsidies for the operation of any such program.

(d) The provisions of this section shall not apply to the Department of Corrections.

Section 10-215b-23. Accrual of income

The income from the sale to students of food items, anywhere on the school premises from 30 minutes prior to the start of any state or federally subsidized milk or food service program until thirty minutes after any such program, shall accrue to the school food authority for the benefit of state or federally subsidized milk or food service programs.

(Effective August 25, 1992)

Source: https://eregulations.ct.gov/eRegsPortal/Browse/RCSA/Title_10Subtitle_10-215b/



Overview of Connecticut's Competitive Foods Regulations

Other federal and state laws require additional restrictions for sales of foods and beverages to students in schools. These include:

- C.G.S. [Section 10-215f](#): Certification that food meets nutrition standards;
- C.G.S. [Section 10-221p](#): Nutritious and low-fat foods available for sale;
- C.G.S. [Section 10-221q](#): Sale of beverages;
- the USDA's Smart Snacks nutrition standards under the USDA's final rule: [National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program: Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in School as Required by the HHSFKA of 2010](#) (81 FR 50131);
- the local educational agency's (LEA) school wellness policy, as required by the USDA's school wellness policy legislation ([Public Law 108-265](#) and the [Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010](#)); and
- USDA's regulation for revenue from nonprogram foods ([7 CFR 210.14 \(f\)](#)).

For an overview of the federal and state laws and when they apply, review the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) resource, [Overview of Federal and State Laws for Competitive Foods in Connecticut Public Schools, Private Schools, and Residential Child Care Institutions](#). For detailed guidance on how these requirements apply to public schools, private schools, and RCCIs, review the CSDE's competitive foods guides and summary charts (refer to "[Resources](#)" in this document).

Section 10-215b-1 Competitive Foods

Section 10-215b-1 of state regulations addresses restrictions for selling and dispensing (giving) candy, coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students on school premises from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after the operation of any CNPs, including during and after the school day.

- "Candy" includes all types of regular and sugar-free varieties, such as chocolates, chocolate-covered nuts and fruits, hard candies, jelly candies (e.g., gumdrops and gummies), and breath mints.
- "Coffee" and "tea" include all types, e.g., regular, decaffeinated, herbal, and iced.
- "Soft drinks" include all beverages (with or without carbonation) that contain water and/or juice and added sweeteners (including nutritive sweeteners and artificial or natural nonnutritive sweeteners), and may also contain other ingredients such as edible acids, natural or artificial flavors and colors, and added nutrients. "Sweeteners" are ingredients used to sweeten foods and beverages and include nutritive (caloric) sweeteners (e.g., sugar, sucrose, honey, fruit juice concentrate, and high fructose corn syrup) and nonnutritive sweeteners without calories. Nonnutritive sweeteners include artificial sweeteners (e.g., acesulfame potassium, aspartame, and sucralose), "natural" sweeteners such as stevia (e.g., Rebiana, Reb A, Truvia, PureVia, and SweetLeaf), and sugar alcohols (e.g., sorbitol, mannitol, maltitol, and erythritol).

Overview of Connecticut's Competitive Foods Regulations

Examples of soft drinks include soda (regular and diet), sports drinks (regular, low-calorie, and zero calorie), sweetened beverages (with or without carbonation) that are not 100 percent juice (such as lemonade and fruit punch drinks), and flavored water with added sweeteners. Soft drinks do not include any beverages that meet the requirements of C.G.S. [Section 10-221q](#), such as 100 percent fruit or vegetable juice, plain water (with or without carbonation), and 100 percent juice diluted with water.

Candy in HFC Public Schools

Effective July 1, 2006, [C.G.S. Section 10-215f](#) supersedes the time specified in Section 10-215b-1 of state regulations because the HFC statute applies at all times, except for food sales that meet the specific food exemption criteria below. Candy does not comply with the [Connecticut Nutrition Standards](#) (CNS). HFC public schools must follow the CNS for all foods sold to students separately from reimbursable meals. The CNS also applies to reimbursable ASP snacks. For information on the requirements for foods and beverages in HFC public schools, review the CSDE's resources, [Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools](#) and [Summary Chart: Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools](#), and [Guide to Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools](#). For more resources, visit the CSDE's [CNS](#) and [HFC](#) webpages.

Food exemptions for HFC public schools

C.G.S. Section 10-215f does not allow sales of candy (or any other foods that do not comply with the CNS) to students on school premises unless the local board of education or school governing authority has voted to allow exemptions, and: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the foods are not sold from a vending machine or school store.

- An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. Events involve a gathering of people in a social context, such as sports competitions, awards banquets, school concerts, and theatrical productions. For example, soccer games, school plays, and school debates are events, but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. For more information on food exemptions, review the CSDE's resource, [Exemptions for Foods and Beverages in Public Schools](#).
- The “school day” is the period from the midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. For example, if school ends at 3:00 p.m., the school day is midnight to 3:30 p.m. A summer school program operated by the board of education or school governing authority is part of the regular school day.
- “Location” means where the event is being held. For example, cupcakes could be sold at the baseball field during a baseball game, but cannot be sold in the school cafeteria while a baseball game is played on the baseball field.

Overview of Connecticut's Competitive Foods Regulations

However, if the event occurs while any CNPs are operating, Section 10-215b-1 of state regulations supersedes the food exemptions allowed by the state HFC statute, and extends restrictions for candy sales to exempted events. Section 10-215b-1 prohibits selling and giving candy to students anywhere on school premises from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after the operation of any CNPs, including during and after the school day. This regulation applies even if:

- the board of education or governing authority has voted to allow food exemptions; and
- the candy sales occur at events that meet the food exemption criteria of the state HFC statute (C.G.S. Section 10-215f).

The examples below illustrate this requirement.

- **Example 1:** If the ASP operates from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., a concession stand located at an event cannot sell or give candy to students anywhere on school premises from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.
- **Example 2:** If the SBP operates from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and the NSLP operates from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., classroom parties cannot give candy to students on school premises from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and teachers cannot give candy to students as food rewards during this time.

The CSDE strongly encourages schools to promote consistent health messages to students by eliminating candy on school premises.

Vending machines and school stores HFC public schools

HFC public schools can never sell candy to students from vending machines or school stores. C.G.S Section 10-215f specifically prohibits food exemptions for vending machines and school stores. For information on the requirements for vending machines and school stores in HFC public schools, review the CSDE's resources, [*Requirements for Foods and Beverages in Vending Machines in HFC Public Schools*](#) and [*Requirements for Foods and Beverages in School Stores in HFC Public Schools*](#).



Overview of Connecticut's Competitive Foods Regulations

Candy in Non-HFC Public Schools, Private Schools, and RCCIs

Effective July 1, 2014, the USDA's Smart Snacks nutrition standards prohibit candy sales during the school day. However, if any CNPs operate after the school day, Section 10-215b-1 of state regulations supersedes Smart Snacks and extends restrictions for candy sales beyond the school day. Section 10-215b-1 prohibits selling and giving candy to students anywhere on school premises from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after the operation of any CNPs, including during and after the school day. The examples below illustrate this requirement.

- **Example 1:** If the ASP operates from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., candy cannot be sold or given to students anywhere on school premises from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. For example, a concession stand at a soccer game on school premises cannot sell candy to students from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., and an afterschool program on school premises cannot give candy to students during this time.
- **Example 2:** If the SBP operates from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and the NSLP operates from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., classroom parties cannot give candy to students on school premises from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and teachers cannot give candy to students as food rewards during this time.
- **Example 3:** If the At-Risk Afterschool Meals program operates from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., candy cannot be sold or given to students anywhere on school premises from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. For example, vending machines that are accessible to students cannot sell candy from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. They must be turned off during this time.

If CNPs are not operating, candy could be sold or given to students in non-HFC public schools, private schools and RCCIs after the school day. For example, if the school day ends at 3:00 p.m., candy could be sold or given to students from 3:31 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. However, the CSDE strongly encourages schools to promote consistent health messages to students by eliminating candy on school premises.

Resources for non-HFC public schools

For more information on the requirements for foods and beverages in non-HFC public schools, review the CSDE's resources, [Requirements for Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools](#) and [Summary Chart: Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools](#), and [Summary of Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards](#), and [Guide to Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools](#). For more resources, visit the CSDE's [Competitive Foods in Schools](#) webpage.

Resources for private schools and RCCIs

For more information on the requirements for foods and beverages in private schools and RCCIs, review the CSDE's resources, [Requirements for Competitive Foods in Private Schools and Residential Child](#)

Overview of Connecticut's Competitive Foods Regulations

Care Institutions, Summary of Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards, Summary Chart: Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in Private Schools and Residential Child Care Institution, and Guide to Competitive Foods in Private Schools and Residential Child Care Institutions. For more resources, visit the CSDE's [Competitive Foods in Schools](#) webpage.

Coffee, Tea, and Soft Drinks in Public Schools (HFC and Non-HFC)

Effective July 1, 2006, the state beverage statute (C.G.S. Section 10-221q) supersedes the time specified in Section 10-215b-1 of state regulations because it prohibits sales of coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students at all times, except for sales that meet the specific exemption criteria below.

Beverage exemptions for public schools

C.G.S. Section 10-221q does not allow sales of coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students in public schools unless the local board of education or school governing authority has voted to allow exemptions, and: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the beverages are not sold from a vending machine or school store. The definitions for “event,” “location,” and “school day” are the same as food exemptions under the stet HFC statute (refer to “[Food exemptions for HFC public schools](#)” in this document). For more information on beverage exemptions, review the CSDE's resource, [Exemptions for Foods and Beverages in Public Schools](#). For information on allowable beverages, review the CSDE's resource, [Allowable Beverages in Connecticut Schools](#), and visit the CSDE's [Beverage Requirements](#) webpage.

However, if any CNPs operate after the school day, Section 10-215b-1 of state regulations supersedes the exemptions allowed by the state beverage statute and extends restrictions for sales of coffee, tea, and soft drinks to exempted events. Section 10-215b-1 prohibits selling and giving coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students anywhere on school premises from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after the operation of any CNPs, including during and after the school day. This regulation applies even if:

- the board of education or governing authority has voted to allow beverage exemptions; and
- the beverage sales occur at events that meet the exemption criteria of the state beverage statute (C.G.S. Section 10-221q).

The examples below illustrate this requirement.

- **Example 1:** If the ASP operates from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., coffee, tea, and soft drinks cannot be sold or given to students anywhere on school premises from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. For example, a concession stand at a football game (exempted event) on school premises cannot sell coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.,

Overview of Connecticut's Competitive Foods Regulations

and an afterschool program on school premises cannot give coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students during this same time.

- **Example 2:** If the SBP operates from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and the NSLP operates from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., classroom parties cannot give coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students on school premises from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and teachers cannot give coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students as rewards during this time.

The CSDE strongly encourages schools to promote consistent health messages to students by eliminating coffee, tea, and soft drinks on school premises. For more information, review the CSDE's resources, [Healthy Fundraising](#), [Healthy Celebrations](#), and [Alternatives to Food Rewards](#).

Vending machines and school stores in public schools

Public schools (HFC and non-HFC) can never sell coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students from vending machines or school stores. The state beverage statute (C.G.S Section 10-221q) specifically prohibits beverage exemptions for vending machines and school stores. The state beverage statute applies to all public schools (HFC and non-HFC), even if they do not participate in the CNPs.

For more information on the requirements for vending machines and school stores in HFC public schools, review the CSDE's resources, [Requirements for Foods and Beverages in Vending Machines in HFC Public Schools](#) and [Requirements for Foods and Beverages in School Stores in HFC Public Schools](#). For more information on the requirements for vending machines and school stores in non-HFC public schools, review the CSDE's resources, [Requirements for Foods and Beverages in School Stores in Non-HFC Public Schools](#) and [Requirements for Foods and Beverages in Vending Machines in Non-HFC Public Schools](#).

Coffee, Tea, and Soft Drinks in Private Schools and RCCIs

Effective July 1, 2014, the Smart Snacks beverage standards apply to all beverages sold to students during the school day. However, depending on when CNPs operate, Section 10-215b-1 of state regulations may supersede Smart Snacks and extend restrictions for coffee, tea, and soft drinks beyond the school day. The requirements for elementary and middle schools are different from high schools, and are summarized below.



Elementary and middle schools in private schools and RCCIs

The Smart Snacks beverage standards prohibit sales of coffee, tea, and soft drinks to elementary and middle school students during the school day. If any CNPs are operating after the school day, Section 10-215b-1 of state regulations supersedes Smart Snacks and extends beverage restrictions beyond the school day. Section 10-215b-1 prohibits selling and giving coffee, tea, and soft drinks to

Overview of Connecticut's Competitive Foods Regulations

students anywhere on school premises from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after the operation of any CNPs, including during and after the school day. The examples below illustrate this requirement.

- **Example 1:** If the ASP operates from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., a concession stand at a football game cannot sell coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students on school premises from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- **Example 2:** If the SBP operates from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and the NSLP operates from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., classroom parties cannot give coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students on school premises from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and teachers cannot give coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students as food rewards during this time.
- **Example 3:** If the At-Risk Afterschool Meals program operates from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., vending machines that are accessible to students cannot sell coffee, tea, and soft drinks from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. They must be turned off during this time.

If CNPs are not operating, private schools and RCCIs could sell coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students on school premises after the school day. For example, if the school day ends at 3:30 p.m., coffee, tea, and soft drinks could be sold to students from 4:01 p.m. through 11:59 p.m. However, the CSDE strongly encourages schools to promote consistent health messages to students by eliminating coffee, tea, and soft drinks on school premises. For more information, review the CSDE's resources, [Healthy Fundraising](#), [Healthy Celebrations](#), and [Alternatives to Food Rewards](#).

High schools in private schools and RCCIs

The Smart Snacks beverage standards prohibit sales of regular soft drinks (such as soda, sports drinks, and juice drinks) to high school students during the school day. Smart Snacks allows sales of coffee, tea, and diet or low-calorie soft drinks to high school students at any time if these beverages comply with the requirements for the category of "other flavored and/or carbonated beverages" and the portion size does not exceed 12 fluid ounces. Evaluation of beverages for compliance with the Smart Snacks calorie limit is based on the amount served, including any added accompaniments, such as milk, cream, sugar, and honey. Examples include coffee with milk and sugar, and tea with milk and honey.

However, Section 10-215b-1 of state regulations supersedes Smart Snacks because it prohibits selling and giving coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after the operation of any CNPs, including during and after the school day. The examples below illustrate this requirement.

Overview of Connecticut's Competitive Foods Regulations

- **Example 1:** If the SBP operates from 7:00 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. and the NSLP operates from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., coffee, tea, and soft drinks cannot be sold or given to high school students anywhere on school premises from 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. For example, the cafeteria and vending machine cannot sell coffee, tea, and soft drinks to high school students during this time.
- **Example 2:** If the NSLP operates from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., classroom parties cannot give coffee, tea, and soft drinks to high school students on school premises from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and addition, teachers cannot give coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students as rewards during this time.
- **Example 3:** If the ASP operates from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., coffee, tea, and soft drinks cannot be sold or given to high school students anywhere on school premises from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. For example, a concession stand at a football game on school premises cannot sell coffee, tea, and soft drinks to high school students from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., and an afterschool program on school premises cannot give coffee, tea, and soft drinks to high school students during this time.

Coffee, tea, and soft drinks that comply with the Smart Snacks calorie limit could be sold or given to high school students outside of the time specified by Section 10-215b-1 of state regulations. However, the CSDE strongly encourages schools to promote consistent health messages to students by eliminating coffee, tea, and soft drinks on school premises.

For more information on the requirements for foods and beverages in private schools and RCCIs, review the CSDE's resources, [Requirements for Competitive Foods in Private Schools and Residential Child Care Institutions](#), [Summary of Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards](#), [Summary Chart: Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in Private Schools and Residential Child Care Institution](#), and [Guide to Competitive Foods in Private Schools and Residential Child Care Institutions](#).

Section 10-215b-23 Accrual of Income

Section 10-215b-23 of state regulations addresses the accrual of income for competitive foods sold to students in public schools, private schools, and RCCIs that participate in the CNPs. This regulation requires that the nonprofit food service account must receive the income from all sales of foods and beverages to students anywhere on school premises from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after the operation of any CNPs.

- “Income” means gross income. For example, if a vending machine contract specifies that the school food service department receives 20 percent of the total vending sales and vending machines operate from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after any CNPs, the school food service department must receive 100 percent of the total vending sales (gross income) during this time.

Overview of Connecticut's Competitive Foods Regulations

- “Nonprofit food service account” means the restricted account in which all of the revenue from all food service operations conducted by the school food authority principally for the benefit of school children is retained and used only for the operation or improvement of the nonprofit school food service. This account shall include, as appropriate, non-federal funds used to support paid lunches as provided in [7 CFR 210.14\(e\)](#), and proceeds from nonprogram foods as provided in [7 CFR 210.14\(f\)](#).

All sales of foods and beverages anywhere on school premises during this time must comply with this regulation, including:

- foods that comply with the CNS and the Smart Snacks food standards;
- beverages that comply with the state beverage requirements of C.G.S. Section 10-221q and the Smart Snacks beverage standards;
- foods sold in HFC public schools at events that comply with the food exemption criteria under C.G.S. Sections 10-215f; and
- beverages sold in public schools (HFC and non-HFC) at events that comply with the beverage exemption criteria under C.G.S. Section 10-221q.

For example, if the SBP operates from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m., the FFVP operates from 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., the NSLP operates from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and the ASP operates from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., the nonprofit food service account must receive the income from all foods and beverages sold to students anywhere on school premises from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m., 9:00 to 10:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information, review the CSDE's [Operational Memorandum No. 1-18: *Accrual of Income from Sales of Competitive Foods in Schools*](#).

Resources

Allowable Beverages in Connecticut Public Schools (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Allowable_Beverages_Public_Schools.pdf

Alternatives to Food Rewards (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/Resources/FoodRewards.pdf>

Beverage Requirements (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Beverage-Requirements>

C.G.S. Section 10-215f: Certification that food meets nutrition standards:

https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_169.htm#sec_10-215f

C.G.S. Section 10-221q: Sale of beverages:

https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_170.htm#sec_10-221q

Competitive Foods in Schools (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Competitive-Foods>

Overview of Connecticut's Competitive Foods Regulations

Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Connecticut-Nutrition-Standards>

CSDE Operational Memorandum No. 1-18: Accrual of Income from Sales of Competitive Foods in Schools:

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/NSLP/Memos/OM2018/OM01-18.pdf>

Exemptions for Foods and Beverages in Public Schools (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/HFC/Food_Beverage_Exemptions_Public_Schools.pdf

Final Rule: National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program: Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in School as Required by the HHFKA of 2010 (81 FR 50131).

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/fr-072916d>

Guide to Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Competitive_Foods_Guide_HFC.pdf

Guide to Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Competitive_Foods_Guide_NonHFC.pdf

Guide to Competitive Foods in Private Schools and Residential Child Care Institutions (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Competitive_Foods_Guide_Private_RCCI.pdf

Healthy Celebrations (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/Resources/HealthyCelebrations.pdf>

Healthy Food Certification (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Healthy-Food-Certification>

Healthy Fundraising (CSDE):

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/Resources/HealthyFundraising.pdf>

List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/List-of-Acceptable-Foods-and-Beverages>

Overview of Federal and State Laws for Competitive Foods in Connecticut Public Schools, Private Schools, and Residential Child Care Institutions (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Overview_Federal_State_Laws_Competitive_Foods.pdf

Presentation: Beverage Requirements for Connecticut Public Schools (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Beverage_Requirements_Connecticut_Public_Schools_Presentation.pdf

Questions and Answers on Connecticut Statutes for School Foods and Beverages (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/HFC/Questions_Answers_Connecticut_Statutes_School_Foods_Beverages.pdf

Overview of Connecticut's Competitive Foods Regulations

Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (Sections 10-215b-1 and 10-215b-23):

https://eregulations.ct.gov/eRegsPortal/Browse/RCSA/Title_10Subtitle_10-215b/

Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/HFC/Requirements_Competitive_Foods_HFC.pdf

Requirements for Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/HFC/Requirements_Competitive_Foods_NonHFC.pdf

Requirements for Competitive Foods in Private Schools and Residential Child Care Institutions (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/HFC/Requirements_Competitive_Foods_Private_RCCI.pdf

Resources for Meeting the Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in Schools (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/HFC/Resources_Federal_State_Requirements_Competitive_Foods.pdf

Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards (CSDE webpage):

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Smart-Snacks-Nutrition-Standards>

Summary Chart: Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Summary_Chart_Requirements_Competitive_Foods_HFC.pdf

Summary Chart: Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in Non-HFC Public Schools (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Summary_Chart_Requirements_Competitive_Foods_NonHFC.pdf

Summary Chart: Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in Private Schools and Residential Child Care Institutions (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/SummaryChart_Requirements_Competitive_Foods_PrivateRCCI.pdf

Summary of Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/HFC/CNS/Summary_Connecticut_Nutrition_Standards.pdf

Summary of Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards (CSDE):

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/Summary_Smart_Snacks_Nutrition_Standards.pdf

Overview of Connecticut's Competitive Foods Regulations



For more information, visit the CSDE's [Competitive Foods in Schools](#) and [Beverage Requirements](#) webpages or contact the [school nutrition programs staff](#) in the CSDE's Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 504, Hartford, CT 06103-1841.

This document is available at https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/CT_Competitive_Foods_Regulations_Overview.pdf.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#), (AD-3027) found online at: [How to File a Complaint](#), and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

The Connecticut State Department of Education is committed to a policy of equal opportunity/affirmative action for all qualified persons. The Connecticut Department of Education does not discriminate in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of age, ancestry, color, criminal record (in state employment and licensing), gender identity or expression, genetic information, intellectual disability, learning disability, marital status, mental disability (past or present), national origin, physical disability (including blindness), race, religious creed, retaliation for previously opposed discrimination or coercion, sex (pregnancy or sexual harassment), sexual orientation, veteran status or workplace hazards to reproductive systems, unless there is a bona fide occupational qualification excluding persons in any of the aforementioned protected classes.

Inquiries regarding the Connecticut State Department of Education's nondiscrimination policies should be directed to: Levy Gillespie, Equal Employment Opportunity Director/Americans with Disabilities Coordinator (ADA), Connecticut State Department of Education, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 505, Hartford, CT 06103, 860-807-2071, levy.gillespie@ct.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.